

HANDLE VIA TALENT  
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Job 361 as CIA C1 TCS  
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TCS No. 487/56

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE  
12 December 1956

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TO : Deputy Director (Intelligence)  
FROM : Assistant Director, Current Intelligence  
SUBJECT: Preliminary OCI Comments on ODE Reports 2029 and  
4018

Noted by DD/1  
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The ODE reports contain detailed intelligence data on airfields in Bulgaria, Rumania and Albania as of 10 December. Preliminary evaluation of these data indicates that aircraft counts and airfield information are in general agreement with intelligence available from other sources.

In report No. 4018, it is stated, however, that "Nine probable FACEPLATE or FITTER aircraft" were observed at Graf Ignatievo airfield in central Bulgaria. It is considered that this identification as to type should be treated with considerable reserve, pending replies to detailed queries which have gone from OCI to [redacted]

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At the moment, OCI tends to doubt the presence of either of these types of jet fighters. Both the FACEPLATE and FITTER, which are among the latest swept-wing jet fighters developed in the USSR, were first observed last June during General Twining's visit to the Soviet Union. The FACEPLATE and the FITTER have been in series production for only a short time. Furthermore, there are no Soviet Air Force units stationed in Bulgaria and it is considered most unlikely that a second-rate Satellite Air Force, such as the one in Bulgaria, would be provided with any of these newer aircraft, particularly since there are believed to be only very small numbers of them in the USSR.

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